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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

101/98

In re A	Application of:	§	Group Art Unit: 1721 —
	Chesser, et al.	§	
		§	
Serial No.: 08/869,109		§	
		§	
Filed: June 4, 1997		§	Examiner: C. H. Kelly
		§	
For:	Controlled Hydration of Starch	§	1
	in High Density Brine Dispersion	§	Atty. Docket: B154-9245-US

## **RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

This paper is filed in response to the first office action mailed June 22, 1998.

## **AMENDMENTS**

## In the Specification

Page 10, line 18, before the word "Note," please delete "[" and insert therefor -- (--.

Page 10, line 21, after the word "satisfactory." Please delete "]" and insert therefor --)--.

## In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Once amended) A method for producing a precursor polymer dispersion for addition to a brine for use in drilling and completion operations comprising: